

This is an official **CDC HEALTH UPDATE**

Distributed via Health Alert Network
Sunday, October 21, 2001, 19:26 EDT (7:26 PM EDT)
CDCHAN-00039-2001-10-21-UPD-N

CDC Update: CDC Case Definition of Anthrax and Summary of Confirmed Cases

CDC case definition of Anthrax

CDC defines a confirmed case of anthrax as 1) a clinically compatible case of cutaneous, inhalational, or gastrointestinal illness that is laboratory confirmed by isolation of *B. anthracis* from an affected tissue or site or 2) other laboratory evidence of *B. anthracis* infection based on at least two supportive laboratory tests.

October 21, 2001 - Summary of confirmed cases

Based on this definition, CDC is reporting eight confirmed cases of anthrax: two in Florida, three in New York, two in New Jersey, and one case in Washington, D.C. (in collaboration with public health officials in Maryland and Virginia).

One additional unconfirmed case is under investigation.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) protects people's health and safety by preventing and controlling diseases and injuries; enhances health decisions by providing credible information on critical health issues; and promotes healthy living through strong partnerships with local, national and international organizations.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES